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The Counsel then took note that I had declined to answer certain questions on the grounds that to do so would violate a top secret classification. What was the basis on which I claimed that the matters I refused to talk about were indeed top secret? Was there a document to which I could refer which established this top secret classification? I replied that there was such a document; it was a National Security Council document. I did not give the number of the document. Mr. Sourwine then stated that this was inadequate identification and would I please obtain the document for examination by the subcommittee. I stated that such a request should be addressed to the official in charge of the operation concerned, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, General Walter Bedell Smith. Mr. Sourwine indicated that the subcommittee preferred not to make a direct approach to General Smith and asked that I make the request, explaining that the document would be shown only to the Chairman in strict confidence. Senator Smith corrected the Counsel by asking that the document be shown to Senator McCarran only. I stated that I would transmit this request.

Mr. Sourwine then expressed the wish of the subcommittee that I would obtain permission to divulge to Senator McCarran, or possibly the subcommittee - I am not sure which - the full nature of the recommendations which I made with regard to the six persons in question. I agreed to pass on this request.

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State Department review completed

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